

Continued Warm

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending September 12, according to the USDA-NASS-Michigan Statistical Office. The State received a third week in a row of above normal temperatures, adding important growing degree days to the season total. Temperatures were above normal across the State, with averages ranging from 1 degree above normal in the southwest Lower Peninsula to 3 degrees above normal in four districts. Sunshine was the general rule with a little rain. Amounts ranged from 0.12 inches in the west central Lower Peninsula to 0.67 inches in the southeast Lower Peninsula. An operator in the south central Lower Peninsula noted, “Warm, sunny weather has advanced crop maturity a lot this week as well as let a lot of third and fourth cutting hay be put up. Silage corn harvest has moved at a rapid pace this week. Most corn is nearing the black layer, or mature stage. Beans are rapidly starting to turn color and drop leaves.”

Field Crops

Many crops across the State last week were aided by more hot, frost free weather. **Hay** harvest continued, but heavy dew made it difficult to dry. Second cutting was complete in most areas. Third cutting harvest progressed nicely and fourth cutting was getting underway for some. Dry conditions have left some stands short. **Corn** progressed with the help of the warm weather. Growers were hoping for more warm days so that the corn and **soybean** crops can mature. The soybean crop continued to advance with good color, but late planted fields need time to finish filling pods. **Dry beans** are nearing harvest rapidly. **Sugarbeets** looked good and continued to progress nicely. **Oat** and **barley** harvest was nearing completion. **Wheat** planting will be delayed due to late soybean harvest.

Soil moisture for week ending 09/12/04

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	5	27	65	3
Subsoil	7	29	63	1

Crop condition for week ending 09/12/04

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	5	12	36	40	7
Corn	6	14	32	36	12
Dry beans	6	15	34	36	9
Pasture	6	18	46	24	6
Soybeans	5	12	39	33	11

Fruit

In the southwest, **apple** growers were picking Gala, Honeycrisp, and McIntosh. Some Honeycrisp in sandy sites were over mature. Apple harvest was moving along quickly in the southeast. McIntosh harvest ended, and growers began picking Gala’s on early sites. In the west central, apple development looked good. In the northwest, harvest of early apple varieties was underway. Warm temperatures in late August triggered the beginning emergence of second generation codling moth adults. **Peach** harvest continued in the west central. **Plum** harvest has concluded in the southwest. In the southeast, plum harvest neared completion, and light amounts of brown rot were showing up. In the west central, Stanley plums were approaching maturity and showing nice color. The crop load was very good in most blocks. In southwest grown **pears**, harvest of Bartletts ended and harvest of later varieties such as Bosc began. Harvest began in the southeast. In the west central, pear harvest was well underway. **Grape** color was well developed in the southwest. In the northwest, red grape varieties started to color.

Vegetables

Warm temperatures helped move along vegetable crops. Harvest of many vegetables continued statewide. **Potato** harvest continued at a moderate pace. Late **sweet corn** harvest progressed. Picking neared completion in some areas. **Snap beans** continued to mature and harvest continued. Processing **tomato** harvest progressed in the southeast. Recent warm weather helped ripen the processing crop, as well as fresh market. **Carrot** harvest moved along in the southeast and west central. The cool summer weather was good for sizing the crop. **Celery** harvest was on schedule at about 60 percent complete. Storage **onions** were maturing in the southeast, while fresh market harvest continued. **Summer squash** harvest was active. Warm weather helped the **zucchini** crop in the west central. **Pumpkins** were turning color. **Watermelon** harvest continued in the southeast.

Crop progress for week ending 09/12/04

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, third cutting	72	51	72	68
All hay, fourth cutting	16	4	0	6
Apples, harvested	9	4	NA	NA
Corn, dough	84	68	84	85
Corn, dent	38	25	46	60
Corn, mature	3	0	1	15
Corn silage, harvested	13	1	16	29
Dry beans, turning leaves	91	50	84	79
Dry beans, dropping leaves	29	0	69	62
Oats, harvested	96	91	99	100
Peaches, harvested	93	80	NA	NA
Soybeans, setting pods	99	92	100	100
Soybeans, turning leaves	31	10	39	59
Soybeans, dropping leaves	6	0	7	21
Winter wheat, planted	2	0	4	4

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 09/12/04 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2004	2003	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	78	39		1,595	1,932		0.24	0.61	2.16	18.38		
Marquette	77	38		1,497	1,857		0.54	0.85	2.88	18.04		
Stephenson	79	44		1,847	2,116		0.41	0.47	1.76	17.19		
Western UP	80	38	2	1,616	1,924	1,784	0.30	0.60	2.09	16.37	17.84	3.58
Cornell	76	45		1,641	2,027		0.31	0.80	2.72	18.07		
Sault St Marie	81	44		1,374	1,791		1.14	1.17	3.53	17.17		
Eastern UP	81	39	2	1,414	1,784	1,574	0.58	0.73	2.53	15.86	16.69	3.55
Beulah	83	48		1,914	2,081		0.35	0.42	3.94	20.70		
Lake City	83	41		1,861	1,970		0.52	0.52	2.25	17.14		
Old Mission	83	49		1,821	2,060		0.13	0.17	1.96	18.54		
Pellston	84	37		1,728	1,961		0.85	1.13	3.06	14.99		
Northwest	84	37	3	1,784	1,984	2,022	0.45	0.52	2.58	17.22	15.61	3.66
Alpena	86	46		1,802	1,941		0.24	0.30	1.03	15.01		
Houghton Lake	83	40		1,957	2,090		0.57	0.58	1.64	16.05		
Rogers City	83	41		1,780	2,031		0.40	0.54	1.87	17.52		
Northeast	86	36	3	1,844	2,042	1,958	0.42	0.52	1.71	16.04	15.64	3.47
Fremont	84	47		2,172	2,366		0.25	0.25	2.46	17.40		
Hart	85	44		2,019	2,200		0.18	0.18	1.51	18.53		
Muskegon	82	48		2,194	2,422		0.05	0.05	1.61	20.50		
West Central	85	43	2	2,088	2,278	2,204	0.12	0.12	1.92	20.16	15.93	3.19
Alma	85	47		2,287	2,352		0.24	0.26	2.59	20.45		
Big Rapids	86	45		2,140	2,161		0.21	0.21	3.62	19.95		
Central	86	43	3	2,234	2,253	2,276	0.22	0.24	2.57	19.87	16.79	3.09
Bad Axe	84	47		2,104	2,072		0.46	0.55	1.96	18.03		
Pigeon	85	46		2,076	2,053		0.53	0.54	2.61	19.05		
Saginaw	85	51		2,300	2,267		0.66	0.67	2.51	17.18		
Standish	84	45		2,052	2,046		0.75	0.75	3.00	18.08		
East Central	86	45	3	2,099	2,126	2,276	0.49	0.50	2.12	18.55	14.98	2.70
Fennville	85	47		2,230	2,322		0.14	0.14	1.28	14.79		
Grand Rapids	84	51		2,526	2,413		0.40	0.40	2.38	21.76		
Holland	84	49		2,327	2,375		0.04	0.06	2.09	15.50		
South Bend, IN	84	51		2,672	2,575		0.10	0.52	4.11	22.86		
Watervliet	85	49		2,414	2,347		0.24	0.24	3.80	22.55		
Southwest	88	46	1	2,414	2,411	2,476	0.17	0.22	2.92	20.67	17.18	3.26
Belding	84	45		2,285	2,294		0.54	0.55	2.49	22.15		
Coldwater	84	48		2,359	2,279		0.37	0.37	2.10	21.75		
Lansing	84	45		2,395	2,353		0.61	0.61	2.53	21.56		
South Central	86	45	2	2,393	2,375	2,434	0.38	0.38	2.54	21.83	17.11	2.79
Detroit	85	54		2,688	2,620		0.65	0.65	3.11	19.87		
Flint	84	46		2,447	2,458		0.48	0.48	1.54	18.30		
Romeo	85	47		2,423	2,300		1.44	1.46	2.20	23.36		
Tipton	86	49		2,394	2,349		0.43	0.43	1.32	18.06		
Toledo, OH	83	50		2,739	2,613		0.75	1.01	4.18	17.37		
Southeast	88	45	2	2,462	2,467	2,431	0.67	0.77	2.39	20.13	16.40	2.43

¹ Issued by the Federal/State Michigan Agricultural Statistics Service in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.

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